



Blair's Rangers of Brisbane, Calif.
Photo. History BOOK No. I.
1942- 1948.

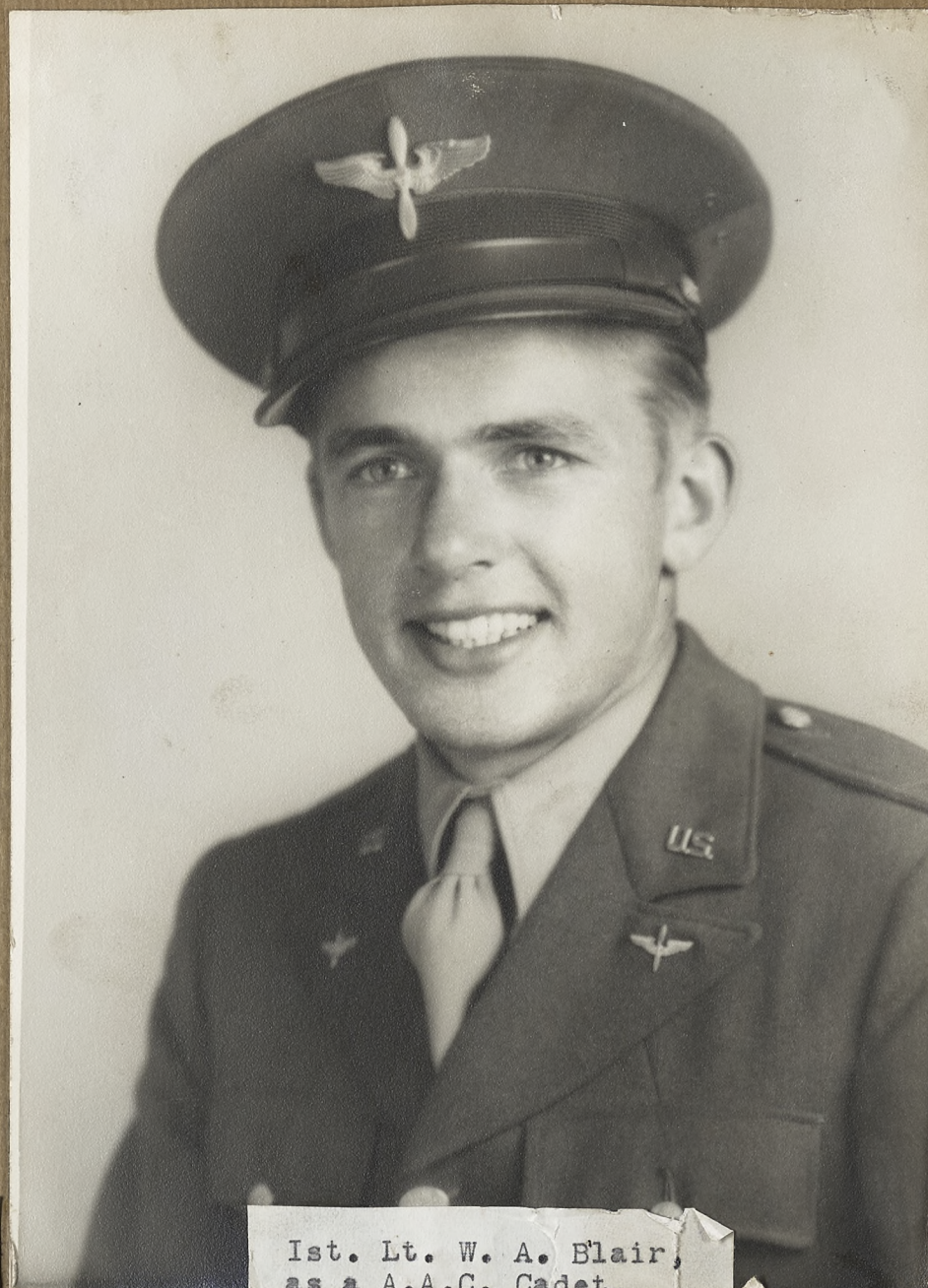
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The SPIRAL REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
SKETCH BOOK
No. 899



Cap. and Mom Blair
Manila, P.I. May 1920.
Sgt. Linwood D. Blair R324, 242.
Co. M, 27th. U.S. Infantry.



Ist. Lt. W. A. Blair,
as a A.A.C. Cadet.
1942



Lt. Blair On his fifth birthday.



Pvt. Blair Inf. C.M.T.C



Walt 1932

THE WALTER A. BLAIR VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST No. 9769



orium. Mrs. Blair received a beautiful orchid corsage and bouquet of yellow roses. The roses were presented by Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Morgan.

The guests were well above the 100 mark making it a grand showing of well wishes for the new V. F. W. Post.

The following officers were installed:

- Robert Tompkins, Commander
- Amos Kenney, Sr., Sr. Vice
- Marvin Folgeman, Jr. Vice
- Theodore Bons, Quartermaster
- Ralph Rumbaugh, Chaplain
- Samuel Cole, Adjutant
- John Carrigan, Judge Advocate
- John Garsimovich, Surgeon
- Leon H. Durham, Officer of day
- Amos Kenny, Jr., Color Bearer
- John Marvin, Color Bearer

The Post's Charter will be open for the next 90 days. Any member joining the Post will have his name on it.

The Walter A Blair V. F. W. Post No. 9769 in Brisbane has been extended the opportunity to issue and distribute the American, Asiatic-Pacific and European - African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals to all Veterans entitled to them.

The number of medals needed must be turned in by June 1, 1948 and upon receipt of the medals they will be issued upon presentation of the honorable discharge indicating qualification.

All eligible veterans please contact any V. F. W. member or call either JU. 4-1271 or DE. 3-4955 immediately.

R. E. Tompkins, Commander
Walter A. Blair Post No. 9769,
Brisbane, California.

Friday night, April 23, 1948 at the American Legion Hall, the Walter A. Blair, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 9769 was officially installed.

The officers were installed at an impressive ceremony performed by Commanders McDonald and Marr and the McQuaide Post Degree Team from San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Lenwood D. Blair were the honored guests as the Post was named in honor of their son, 1st Lt. Walter Alvin Blair; Bombardier Navigator 511th Squadron, 351st Bombardment Group, Eighth Air Force, based at Peterborough, England.

While 1st Lieut. was making his 21st mission he bailed out of his burning B-17 near Frankford, Germany. One month and one day before his 21st birthday.

The Blairs donated the beautiful colors to the Post. The U. S. Ensign and Post's colors, which were presented by Captain Blair and his Rangers.

Comrade McDonald dedicated the colors to the Post.

A plaque with the cross of Malta was presented the Blairs in mem-

the p... my patrioti... duty... pre... used to establish this... throughout the year... He is pictured... possession, a Hall... d by U.S. regular

WERS"

Timothy G. Haskins May 30, 1949. Memorial Day. Rogers 1st Cavalry Division



Cpl. Burson Firearm Hunterman Cliff Jarvis Cpl. Tamm (ambulance) Firearm Volmerman



Capt. Blair C.O. Memorial Day, 1949. 1st Sgt. Tamm



B. Davis Rogers

Memorial Day May 30, 1950. Walter & Helen Post 9769, V.F.W.



Memorial Day, May 30, 1950.



Memorial Day May 30, 1950.



Memorial Day May 30, 1950.



Memorial Day May 30, 1951.



Western Boy's Parade Brisbane June 10, 1951.



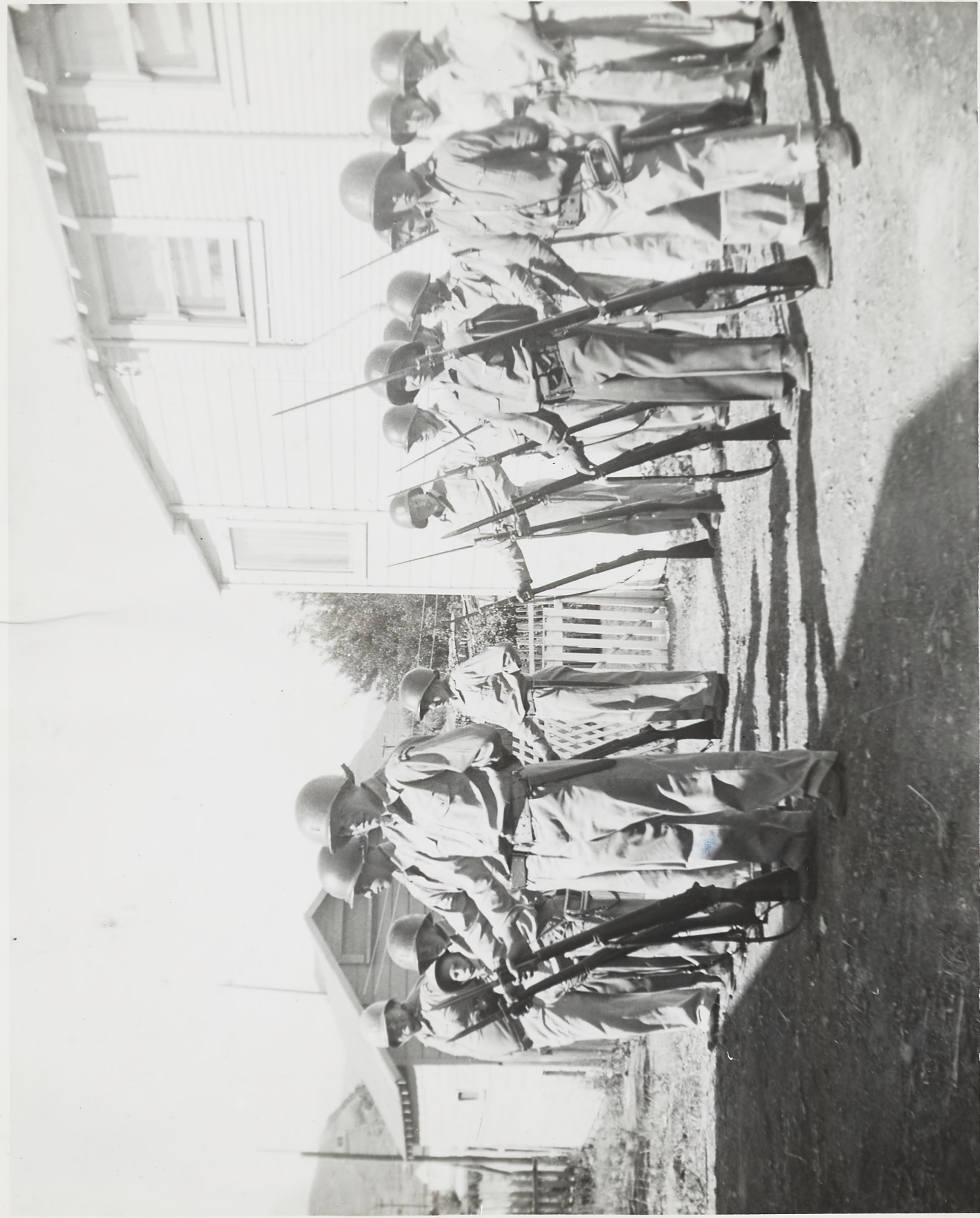
Capt. Butledge
Aug. 25, 1951



Memorial Day, June 10, 1951



Blair's Rangers August 1951. (in the field)



August 1950.



1952



Memorial Day May 30, 1952.



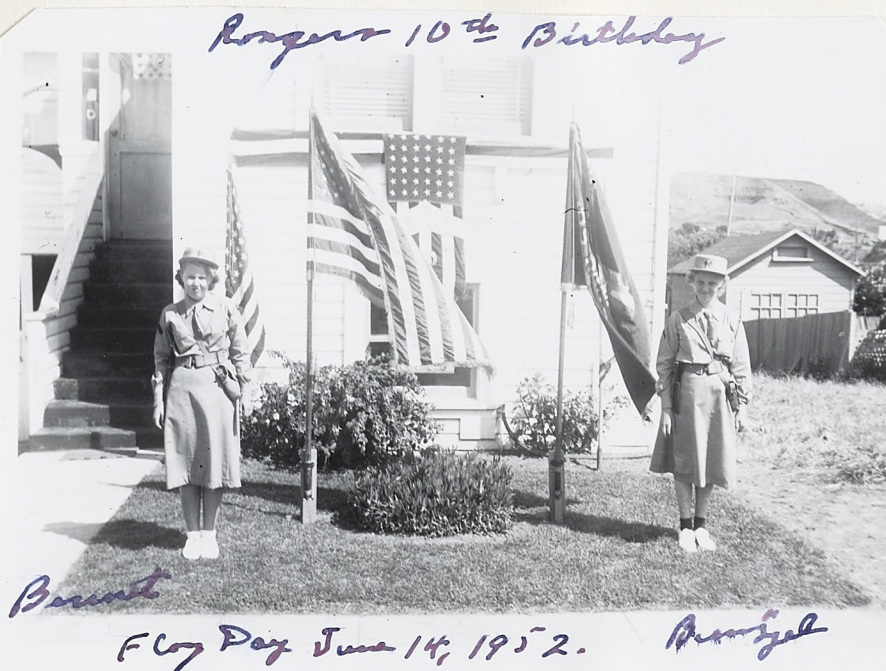
Memorial Day Nov. 11, 1952.



Armistice Day Nov. 11, 1952.



Nov. 11 1952.



Rangers 10th Birthday

Burnett

Flag Day June 14, 1952.

Armistice



Nov. 11, 1952.



1952



Western Days June 1952



Armistice Day Nov. II, 1953.



Memorial Day May 30 1953.



Armistice Day Nov. II 1953.



Armistice Day Nov II, 1953.





LINWOOD D. BLAIR AND WIFE
He holds .44 calibre cap and ball pistol; she, a dragoon pistol



PVT. GENE M. JOHNSON, CAPT. W. G. ACKERMAN
Blair's Ranger "graduates" to Marine Corps service

'Capt. Blair's Rangers' Aid Marines

BRISBANE—A lot of the Marine Corps boot training that Pvt. Gene M. Johnson is getting these days at San Diego is old stuff to him.

For Private Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford O. Johnson, 511 Edgemar Ave., Pacific Manor, is a graduate of "Captain Blair's Rangers," who start training to be "guerilla infantry" as soon as they're big enough to carry an antique musket.

"Blair's Rangers" are the product and pride of Linwood D. Blair of 134 Monterey St., Brisbane, an ex-soldier with two hobbies: guns and boys.

In the Rangers, Blair has combined both hobbies. It's his proud boast that his boys "could arm themselves from a museum and come out fighting."

Matter of fact, they do arm themselves from a museum—Blair's museum. In the basement of his home here, the 23-year army man (1911-24) has an amazing collection of weapons. Most of them, as befits collector's items, are far outdated and wouldn't compare with the M-1 present-day Marines carry. But they're kept in shiny-bright shooting order.

And it's with these guns that Blair's Rangers are armed for overnight bivouacs and other exercises during which he teaches them "guerilla tactics."

A signal placed in the window summons Blair's Rangers to their rendezvous—as Brig. Gen. Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox" of the Revolution, summoned his North Carolina irregulars by a fire in the hills to sudden attacks on the British. Blair is a great admirer of Marion, and tries to pattern his Rangers' training after that of "Marion's Brigade."

The Rangers were organized in 1942, and named for Blair's son, First Lt. Linwood D. Blair Jr., who later was killed in action in the European theater in World War II.

Many of the Rangers have "graduated" to the armed services. Johnson, the latest of them, expects to profit from his membership. As the new Marine puts it:

"Captain Blair's main purpose in life is to make good citizens and good Americans out of the youth of today."

To Blair, self-protection, infantry tactics, military courtesy and the handling of firearms are all parts of the equipment of good citizens.



Rec. Center
June, 1954.



Field Training And Target Practice 1954.





Western Days June 1952



Armistice Day Nov. II, 1953.



Memorial Day May 30 1953.



Armistice Day Nov. 11 1953

Brisbane Man Has Collected a Veritable Arsenal of Rare, Antiquated Firearms

By DOROTHY RADOFF

Entering the basement room in the home at 134 Monterey St., Brisbane, one catches his breath in amazement at the display of military arms. This is the result of a 24-year hobby of L. D. Blair, former soldier (1911-24), and numbers over 40 pieces.

Prized possession is a Hall breach loading infantry rifle, 54 caliber, built at Harper's Ferry Arsenal, Va., between 1819-25 and unique because it is the first breach loader to be used by the U. S. regulars.

Used in the Mexican War of 1846 is a U. S. Army Springfield musket, and date 1852 is a rifle which saw service during the Civil War. Oldest gun is a matchlock carbine of Japanese origin, between 150 and 200 years old. It was once owned by a member of the Samurai class. This ornate weapon has a stock of cherrywood, inlaid with brass ornamentation.

A box of musket caps, manufactured in London and sold to the Confederates during Civil War days, is another interesting item. It was part of the cargo of a blockade runner whose ship was captured by the Union Navy off Charleston. Other Civil War specimens include two Federal caps, a bullet mold, powder horns, belt equipment, bayonets, a Federal and a Confederate saber.

Unearthed in an old Indian grave in Modoc County is a French pinfire military revolver, now hanging on Blair's wall. A bugle which saw service at Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel, Verdun, in the Argonne, at Meuse, Coblenz and Alsbach in World War I, also is among the collection.

In talking to this hobbyist one finds that he is an expert on military arms of the past and that his knowledge of U. S. history is more than ordinary.

As a child, Blair recalls that his family possessed many military arms, some dating back to pre-Revolutionary days. This, together with his military service, he said, fostered his hobby.

Says Blair, "I believe it is my patriotic duty to preserve the military arms that were used to establish this republic and to maintain it."

His armory serves a double duty, for it is also the headquarters of Blair's Rangers, a group of Brisbane boys organized by Blair. He gives them army drilling and takes them on overnight maneuvers. The troop members also know the history of all the guns in his collection.



IF GUNS COULD TALK—Guns, symbolic of various wars, and forming a rare collection, are the proud hobby of L. D. Blair of Brisbane. "I believe it is my patriotic duty to preserve the military arms that were used to establish this republic and maintain its liberty throughout the years," is the way Blair explains his hobby. He is pictured above demonstrating his most prized possession, a Hall breech loader, the first one of its kind used by U.S. regulars.



Hqrs. Photos. Compliments U.S. Marine Corps.
Recruiting Service, San. Mateo Sub. Station
T/Sgt. James Tate N.C.O. in Charge M/Sgt.
Belch Photographer. December 1954.



Brisbane Rec. Center
Dedication June, 1954.



Field Training And Target Practice 1954.





Memorial Day May 30, 1954.
W.A.C. Cpls. Benett & Brenzel
Commander Benett, W.A. BLAIR
POST 9769 V.F.W.



Hqrs. Blair's Rangers.
134 Monterey St. Brisbane, Calif.
Home, Cap. & Mom. Blair.



Pvt. Arlen W. Richardson
U.S.M.C. Elected 1 Feb 1955.
ex Staff Sgt.
Blair's Rangers.



Rangers on the way to Beach 8 April 1955.



(Defensive)
Operation Beach Head, Fire At Will.
8 April 1955.

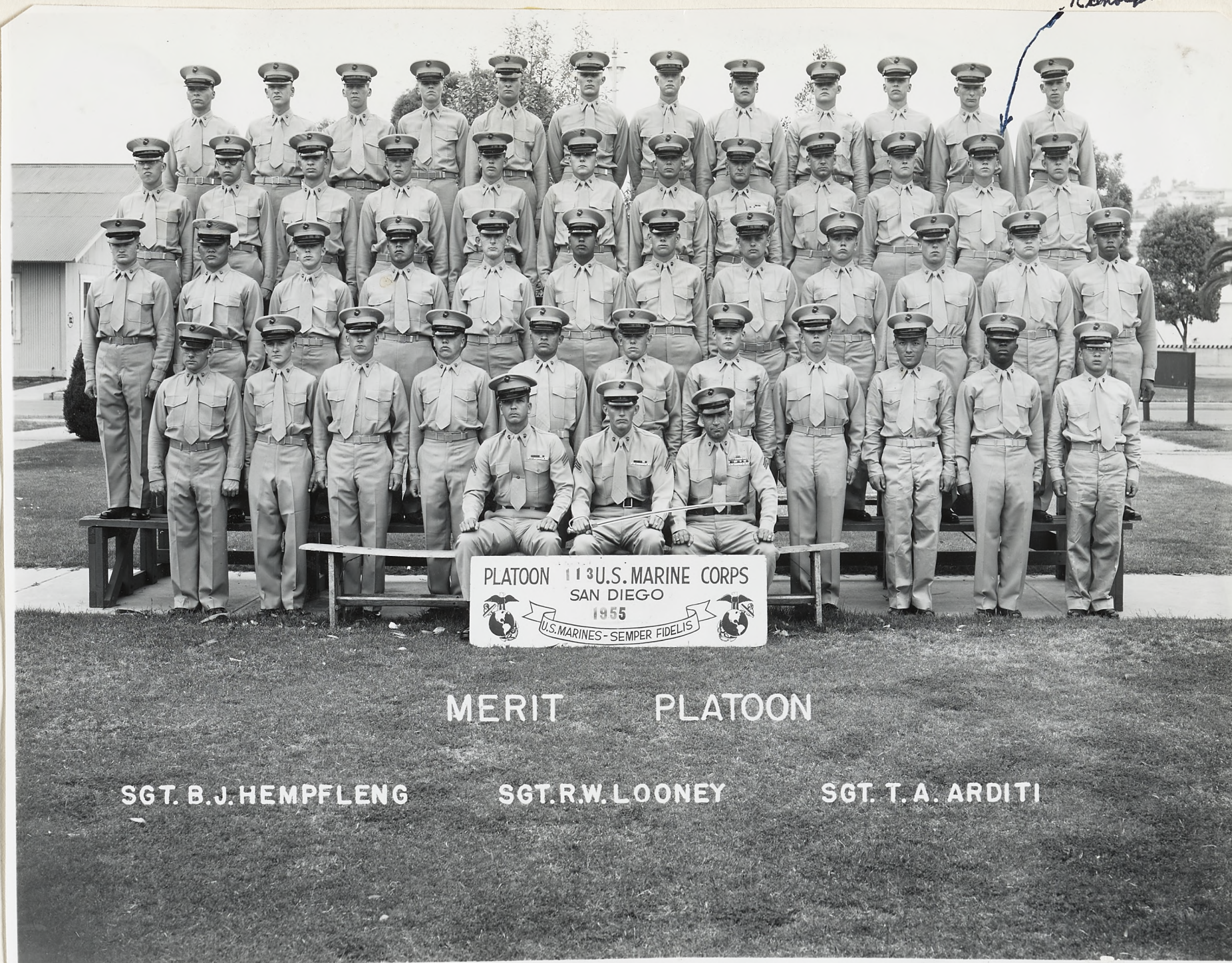




Rangers, Field Training and Target Practice
14 May 1955.



Pvt. Orden W. Richardson U.S.M.C.
Enlisted 1 Feb. 1955. Ex. Staff Sgt.
Blaine Rangers.



Richardson

MERIT PLATOON

SGT. B. J. HEMPFLING

SGT. R. W. LOONEY

SGT. T. A. ARDITI



Vincent Reese
Ex Ranger 1st Class.
Washington National Guard 1954.
U.S. Army Air Force 1955.



Don Robertson
Ex. Staff Sgt Blaine Rangers
Enlisted U.S. Navy 1950.



Hq. & Callow Blair Rogers
July 4, 1955. Mom Blair and
Callow Gerard. Rogers Mappett
Chris & Pinkie Thompson
Mascat, Tom Mappett.



Gene Johnson Ex-Marine Officer Blair Rogers
Enlisted U.S.M.C. Dec. 1954.



Yours truly
Frank Johnson



Hq. Blain Ronger
4 July 1955.



2nd Lt. Richardson June 1955. 2nd Lt. Johnson
return home on leave from the Marine Corps.
They serve as Commissioned Officers of Blain
Ronger's, their old outfit.



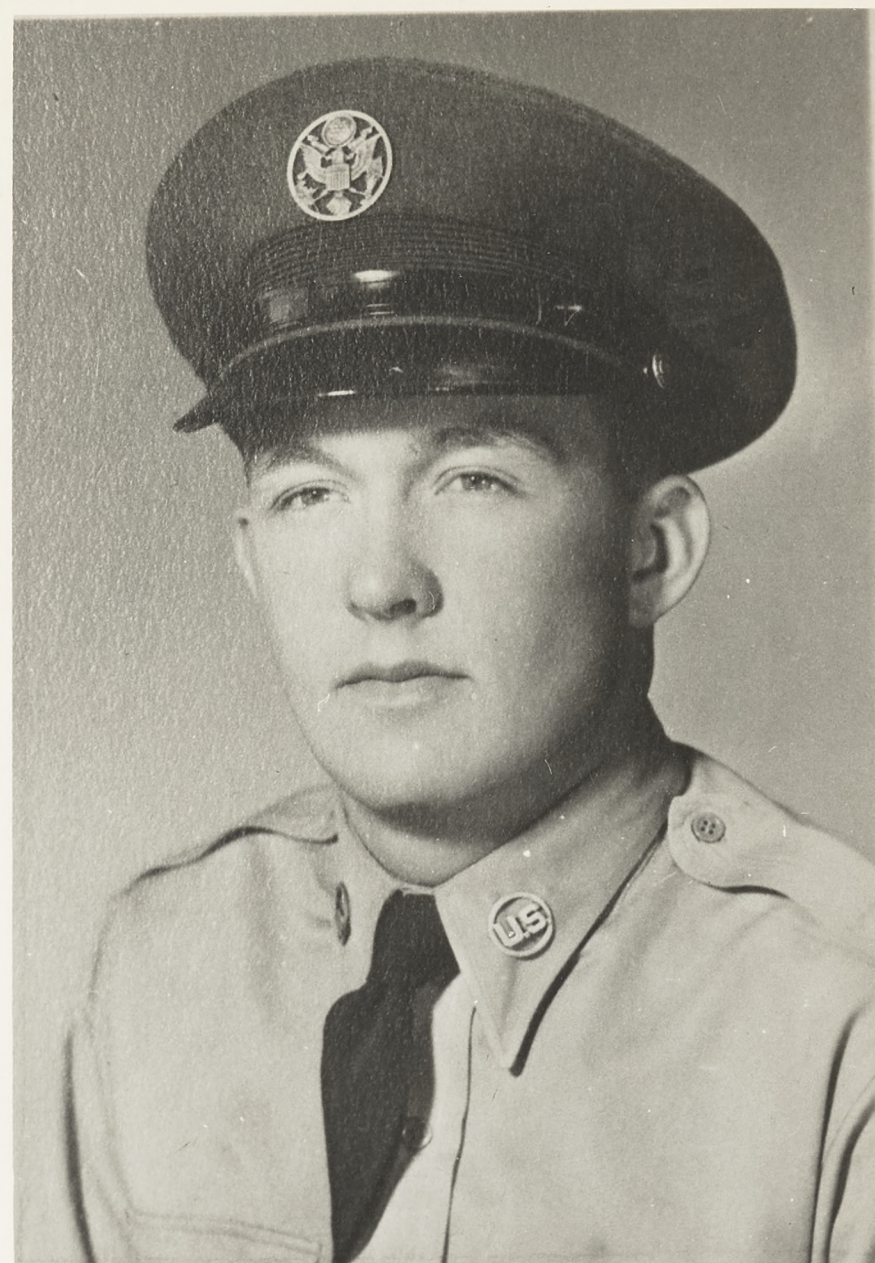
Blair's Rangers over night and Field Training
July 1955



Blair's Rangers over night and Field Training
August 1955

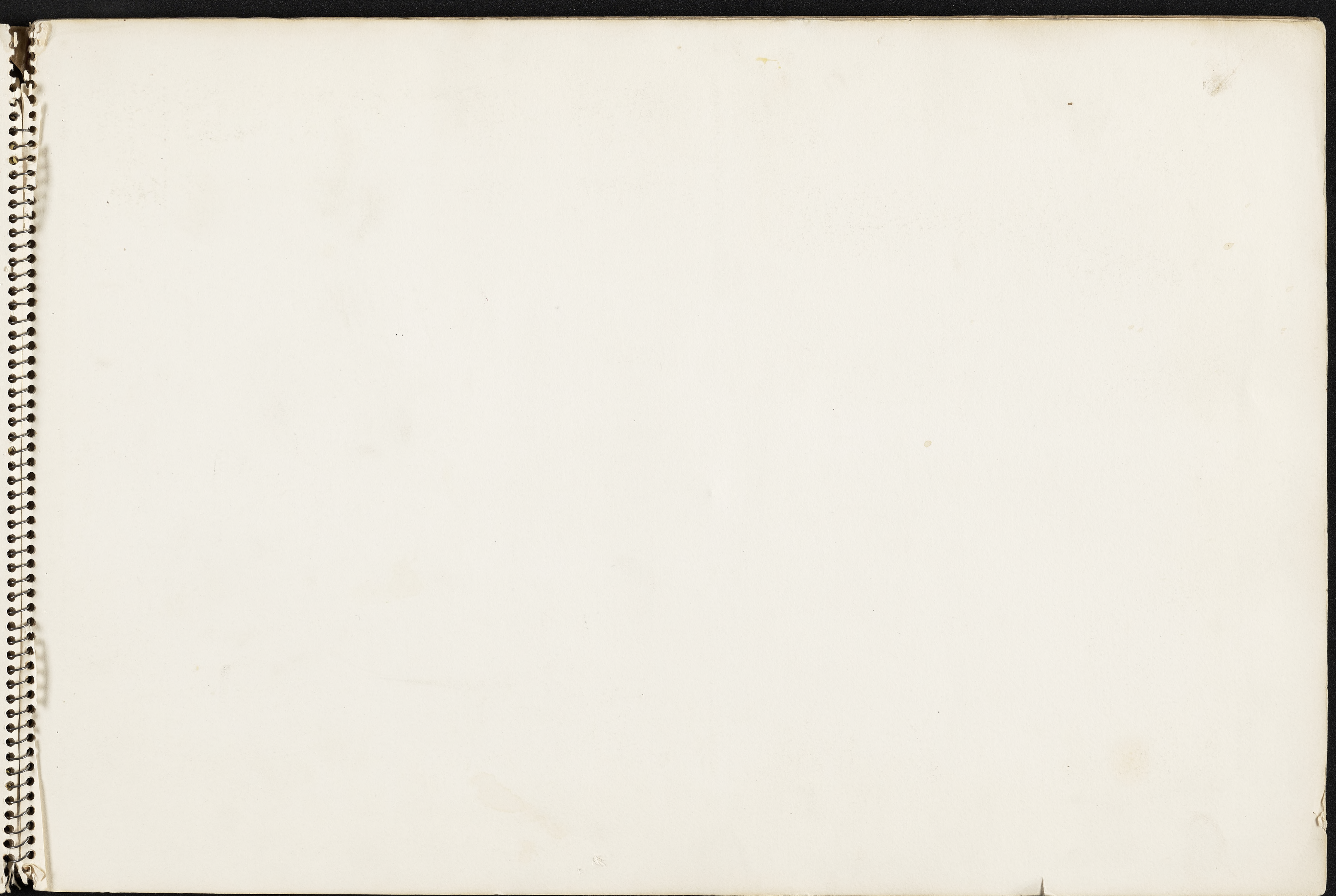


Blair's Rangers September 1955
over night and Field Training



Vincent W. Reece - U.S. Air Force.









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